

# The Neglect of Metrodorus' Economics

Post by "Cassius" of February 17, 2020 at 4:03 PM

## [Quote from Hiram](#)

Your body needs warmth, safety, something to eat, something to drink, clothing, etc

Well, if warmth, safety, something to eat, something to drink, and clothing are all that is needed to be "wealthy" then the inmates at San Quentin are wealthy indeed!

## [Quote from Hiram](#)

If you have all the natural needs met, you are wealthy.

The problem with these formulations is that they imply (rather clearly state, actually) that there is something wrong with wanting more than the bare necessities of life. Cue the disney song here, as others regularly do in this context.

But it is foreign to Epicurus to say that any set of facts is good or bad, desirable or undesirable, without linking them to the pleasure of the person involved.

## [Quote from Hiram](#)

So This is the focus. If you have all the natural needs met, you are wealthy. But if you're trying to "keep up with the Joneses" and constantly working to impress strangers, you need to adjust your opinions to nature.

Nowhere in any of this Hiram are you linking any of this to the specific pleasure under the context being discussed? Why not? Are you looking for a formula that you can apply to everyone and say that Nature says that that person has enough? Why not look to the actual pleasure being experienced by the individual no matter what amount of money he has in the bank. You can be rich in pleasure with little money, or a billionaire full of pain and sorrow.

is THAT not the message here?

Are you suggesting that Epicurus is Phil Harris / Baloo singing to Mowgli to go only for the bare necessities of life? If not, how is what you are saying different from Baloo?

This is a cute song, but it's a DEROGATORY CARICATURE, not what **Epicurus** really taught.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ogQ0uge06o>